HOUSE No. 2106

By Mr. Wagner of Chicopee, petition of Joseph F. Wagner for legislation to establish a motor carrier advisory council. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF A MOTOR CARRIER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 156B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002
- 2 Official Edition, is amended by inserting the following new
- 3 section at the end thereof:—
- 4 Section 23. There is established a Motor Carrier Advisory
- 5 Council, which shall serve as a forum for representatives of the
- 6 motor carrier industry to meet with representatives of various state
- 7 agencies responsible for the oversight, enforcement and regulation
- 8 of the commercial transportation industry. The council shall:
- 9 (1) make recommendations to eliminate the duplication of work
- 10 among various state agencies; (2) make recommendations to pro-
- 11 mote uniformity of enforcement policies; (3) encourage the consoli-
- 12 dation of the state's efforts to regulate and oversee the operation of
- 13 the commercial motor vehicles in the state by reviewing the feasi-
- 14 bility of consolidating the issuing of the forms, decals, permits, reg-
- 15 istrations, licenses and approvals required for the operation of
- 16 commercial motor vehicles in the state from a central location;
- 17 (4) consider the intrastate and interstate effects of state policies on
- 18 the ability of Massachusetts motor carriers to compete with motor
- 19 carriers based in other states; and (5) consider and make recommen-
- 20 dations concerning any other matter deemed relevant by the council.
- 21 The Motor Carrier Advisory Council shall consist of the
- 22 following voting members: at least one member from the Massa-
- 23 chusetts State Police Truck Team, the Regional Director from the
- 24 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), at least

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one member of the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, one 26 member of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and at least one member from the Massachusetts Motor Transportation Association or its designees. The council shall elect a chairman, at the initial meeting of the committee, from its members who shall serve for a period co-terminus with the Governor. The chairman, or his/her designee, shall be responsible to organize each meeting, notify the members, formulate the agenda, provide a copy of the minutes following the meeting and such other duties as may be required. The council shall only make recommendations or take actions by a majority vote of all members present and voting. The council may make recommendations as the council deems appropriate to the United States Congress, the 37 Governor, the General Court or any related state agencies. 38

The council shall convene a meeting: (1) Prior to the commence-40 ment of each regular session of the General Court concerning legislative proposals of the various state agencies and the representatives of the motor carrier industry; (2) after the close of each regular session of the General Court concerning the impacts and implementation of any legislation affecting the motor carrier industry; and (3) at the call of the chairman or any other council member, provided the council shall meet, notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, at least quarterly.

48 The council shall solicit input from representatives of motor 49 carrier related industries. Such representatives shall include, but not be limited to, the New England Bus Association (NEBA), the School Transportation Association of Massachusetts (STAM) and 52 the Regional Motor Advisory Council.